

Erasmus+: international higher education and Bulgaria

What is Erasmus+ ?

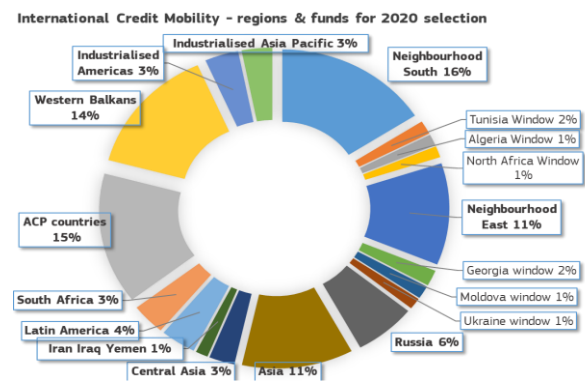
Erasmus+ is the European Union (EU) programme for education, training, youth and sport for the period 2014-2020. Erasmus+ funds academic mobility and cooperation projects that involve partners from "Programme Countries" and "Partner Countries" throughout the world. In 2020, 34 Programme Countries comprise the 27 EU Member States plus seven other European countries*. Erasmus+ supports activities that are closely matched with the EU's priorities for cooperation policy with partner countries and regions. These factsheets look at the extent of an individual country's involvement in this international dimension of Erasmus+ since the programme started in 2014. These opportunities are set to continue in the new Erasmus+ programme 2021-27.

International credit mobility (ICM)

For over 30 years, students and staff have moved between European universities in the Erasmus programme. Since 2015, Erasmus+ has also allowed short-term mobility to Europe from other parts of the world for students, researchers, and staff. This two-way mobility allows students to study in a foreign university for 3-12 months and obtain credits which are then recognised at the sending institution as part of their degree. Since 2018, traineeships have also been an option. There are also grants for staff mobility of 5-60 days.

There are distinct budgets for different regions of the world that are divided between all the European countries. Programme-Country institutions may apply to their National Agency to seek Erasmus+ funding for their bilateral partnerships with universities from Partner Countries throughout the world.

	TOTAL	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Proposals received involving Bulgaria	203	29	30	29	31	44	40
Projects selected involving Bulgaria	116	18	22	19	16	25	16
Students and staff coming to Bulgaria	2,575	579	469	472	366	399	290
Students and staff leaving Bulgaria	1,702	387	331	314	231	276	163
% funding awarded to Bulgaria	1,40	1,325	1,26	1,457	1,367	1,615	1,299

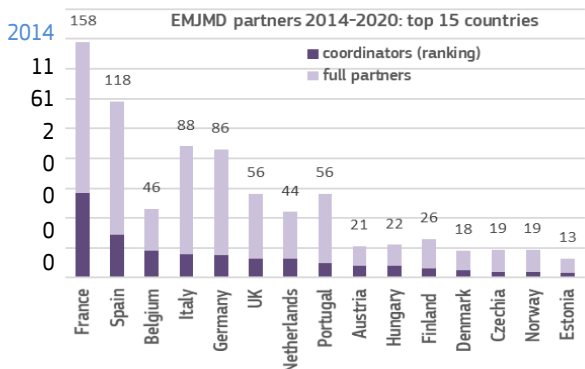


Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees

Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees (EMJMDs) award EU-funded scholarships to Master students from around the world that cover covering tuition, travel, and a living allowance. The programmes last from one to two years during which students study in at least two different European countries, and obtain a joint, double degree, or multiple degree. Institutions from partner countries can also be part of the consortia that deliver these programmes (though this is not obligatory) as Full Partners, which means they officially award degrees, or as Associated Partners, where they participate in the programme in some kind of capacity, but do not award the actual joint degree.

Bulgaria in EMJMD projects

	TOTAL	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Total EMJMDs selected	250	46	51	44	39	27	32
Total proposals received	713	100	107	112	122	92	119
Proposals received involving Bulgaria	16	1	4	4	3	1	1
EMJMDs selected involving Bulgaria	6	1	2	2	1	0	0
EMJMDs selected coordinated by Bulgaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Full partners from Bulgaria in EMJMDs	2	0	1	1	0	0	0
Associates from Bulgaria in EMJMDs	4	1	1	1	1	0	0



Each EMJMD receives EU funding to award a certain number of scholarships to students worldwide. Additional scholarships are also available for students from regions comprising emerging or developing economies. Students apply directly to the programme coordinator and can find the programmes on the EMJMD catalogue (see links).

EM Masters scholarships, Bulgaria

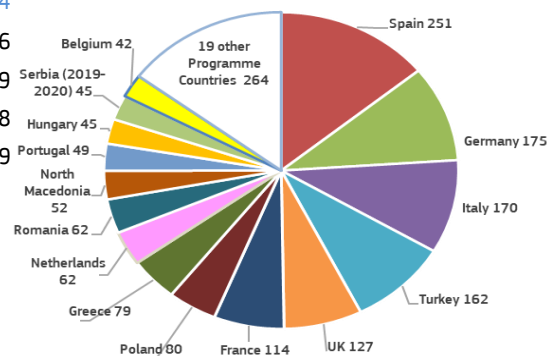
Scholarships worldwide

Scholarships to Programme Countries

EM programmes offering scholarships

TOTAL	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
20	4	2	3	3	1	1	6
11.816	2427	2130	1669	1556	1347	1308	1379
1.820	347	331	272	186	141	125	418
	130	115	86	100	87	120	149

1779 EM scholarships
Top 15 Programme Country nationalities
2014-2020

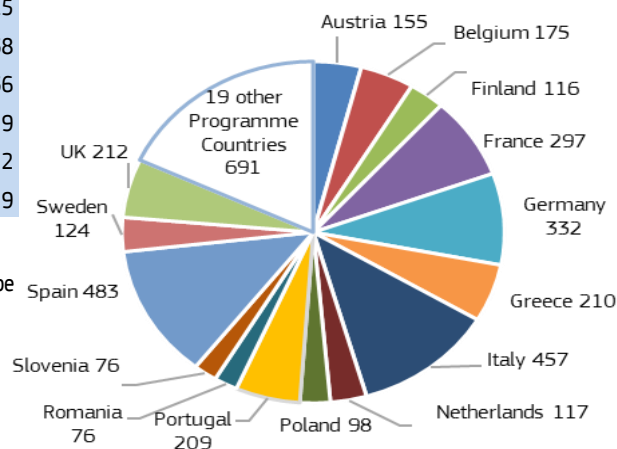


Capacity-building for Higher Education

Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education action (CBHE) projects, which lasts from two to three years, are aimed at modernising and reforming higher education institutions, developing new curricula, improving governance, and building relationships between higher education institutions and enterprises. They can also tackle policy topics and issues, preparing the ground for higher education reform, in cooperation with national authorities.

TOTAL	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	
Proposals received in call overall	4.830	1019	840	887	833	736	515
Projects selected in call overall	908	164	163	147	149	147	138
Proposals received involving Bulgaria	353	67	52	66	78	54	36
Projects selected involving Bulgaria	60	8	8	14	12	9	9
Projects coordinated by Bulgaria	12,0	0	1	3	3	3	2
Instances of participation from Bulgaria in selected projects	67	10	8	14	15	11	9

Participation in CBHE, 2015-2020 - Top 15 Programme countries



Capacity building projects can be addressed to a group of countries or a single country. They can also be cross-regional, including institutions from different partner regions.

Jean Monnet Activities

Jean Monnet (JM) activities aim to develop EU studies worldwide. For over 25 years they have been supporting Modules, Chairs, and Centres of Excellence to promote excellence in teaching and research on the European integration process at higher education level. The programme also supports policy debate with the academic world through networks and a number of associations in the domain of EU studies.

Bulgaria in Jean Monnet

TOTAL	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	
Proposals received in call overall	7.600	1447	1315	1255	1177	1034	879	493
Projects selected in call	1.862	362	285	235	238	270	260	212
Applications from Bulgaria	49	8	8	10	10	4	5	4
Selected projects from Bulgaria	13	4	2	0	1	1	2	3
Networks involving partners from Bulgaria	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	1

More information:

Erasmus+ website: http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/node_en

Erasmus+ projects & results: <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects/>

Erasmus+ funding opportunities: http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/funding_en

Erasmus Mundus programme catalogue: https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/library/scholarships-catalogue_en

February 2021

* In 2020 these countries are Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, North Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey and the United Kingdom.